



Enforcement Division

# Advisory

**TO: FLEETS, FLEET OPERATORS  
AND OTHER INTERESTED  
PARTIES**

**Number 350**

**July, 2006**

## **ENFORCEMENT OF SOFTWARE UPGRADE FOR HEAVY DUTY DIESEL ENGINES (REFLASH)**

The purpose of this advisory is to inform you that the California Air Resources Board's (ARB) "Heavy Duty Diesel Engine Software Upgrade (Chip Reflash) regulations, which went into effect on March 21, 2005, are being enforced. This program is also commonly referred to as the "Low NOx Reflash" or "Reflash" program.

Owners of heavy-duty diesel trucks; school, transit and tour buses; and motor homes operating in California, irrespective of their state of registration, with select 1993-1998 model year heavy-duty diesel engines manufactured by Caterpillar, Cummins, Detroit Diesel, International, Mack/Renault, and Volvo are required to have low NOx (nitrogen oxides) software installed. When installed, the low NOx software reduces NOx emissions, a criteria pollutant that contributes to the formation of smog. To obtain additional information about the Low NOx Reflash Program, **to view the list of engines that are subject to the Low NOx Reflash Program** or to view the regulations governing this program, please visit our website at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/hdsoftware/hdsoftware.htm>.

To avoid citation and penalties, have your vehicles reflashed at the applicable engine dealer as soon as possible. You must also ensure that the label installed by the engine dealer demonstrating that your engine has been reflashed is maintained and kept clean and readable. Vehicles that do not have their reflash label installed will be cited. You should also maintain a copy of the dealer's invoice for the reflash service in the vehicle and in your fleet vehicle maintenance files.

The ARB conducts random audits of individual heavy duty diesel vehicles at roadside locations and at fleets to determine compliance with the Low NOx Reflash program. Vehicle owners or fleets found out of compliance are subject to significant civil penalties. To obtain information regarding ARB's enforcement of these programs, as well as others, please visit our website at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/enf.htm>.

If you have any questions about the Low NOx Reflash Program regulations, please contact Mr. Earl Landberg, of the Mobile Source Control Division at (916) 323-1384 or [elandber@arb.ca.gov](mailto:elandber@arb.ca.gov). For questions regarding enforcement of the programs discussed in this letter, please contact Mrs. Michele Burns, of the Enforcement Division, at (626) 350-6490 or [mburns@arb.ca.gov](mailto:mburns@arb.ca.gov). If you have additional questions, please contact ARB's Public Information Office at 1-800-END-SMOG.